

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02  
SS-15 ICA-11 TRSE-00 /090 W  
-----078141 161215Z /45

R 151450Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY ROME  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3584  
AMEMBASSY KABUL  
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 11122

EO 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: AF, IT, US  
SUBJ: AFGHAN DEVELOPMENTS

ACCORDING TO MFA'S OFFICE DIRECTOR FOR ASIAN AFFAIRS (RUGGIERO), TWO SENIOR AFGHAN OFFICIALS HAVE RECENTLY ASSURED HIM THAT AFGHANISTAN INTENDS TO PURSUE A NON-ALIGNED COURSE. DURING A BRIEF CONVERSATION WHILE TRANSITING ROME EN ROUTE FROM NEW YORK TO KABUL, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS HAFIZULLAH AMIN TOLD RUGGIERO THAT AFGHANISTAN SEEKS TO HAVE GOOD RELATIONS WITH ALL COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THE UNITED STATES, BUT HE STRESSED THAT THE NATURE OF THESE RELATIONS WOULD BE DIRECTLY PROPORTIONAL TO THE DEGREE OF ASSISTANCE WHICH IS PROVIDED TO AFGHANISTAN.

2. IN A MEETING AT THE MFA JUNE 13, AFGHAN AMBASSADOR POHANYAR REPEATED THE SAME MESSAGE. AT THE SAME TIME, POHANYAR TALKED POINTEDLY OF POLITICAL HOSTILITY DIRECTED AGAINST AFGHANISTAN BY THE PAKISTAN GOVERNMENT. ACCORDING TO RUGGIERO, POHANYAR IS EXTREMELY CONCERNED ABOUT HIS POSITION, ALTHOUGH HE HAS NOT YET BEEN OFFICIALLY RECALLED.  
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THE AMBASSADOR TOLD RUGGIERO THAT HAS HIS QUOTE BAGS PACKED END QUOTE, ALTHOUGH HE INTIMATED THAT HE MIGHT BE ABLE TO PRESERVE HIS POSITION THROUGH A FRIENDSHIP WITH PRIME MINISTER MABRAK WHICH DATES BACK TO WHEN THEY WENT TO SCHOOL TOGETHER. POHANYAR TOLD RUGGIERO THAT NAZAR MOHAMMAD AZIZIAN MINISTER-CONSELOR AT THE AFGHAN EMBASSY HAS JUST BEEN RECALLED TO KABUL BECAUSE HE IS RELATED TO

THE FORMER ROYAL FAMILY.

3. CONCERNING THE ROYAL FAMILY WHICH IS IN EXILE IN ROME, RUGGIERO IS NOT AWARE THAT THEY HAVE YET ENGAGED IN ANY PARTICULAR ACTIVITY DIRECTED AGAINST THE NEW AFGHAN GOVERNMENT. FORMER KING ZAHIR DID ISSUE A STATEMENT FOLLOWING THE RECENT COUP WHICH LED TO AN OFFICIAL PROTEST TO THE ITALIAN AMBASSADOR IN KABUL. THE ITALIAN MFA SBSEQUENTLY SUGGESTED TO ZAHIR THAT HE REFRAIN FROM ENGAGING IN POLITICAL ACTIVITIES WHILE HERE IN ITALY.

4. REGARDING THE WHEREABOUTS OF PRINCE ABDUL WALI (KABUL 4602), WE BELIEVE THAT HE IS STILL IN ROME. (A YEAR AGO HIS ADDRESS WAS 37 VIA NICOLO PICCOLONINI, TELEPHONE NUMBER 382352.) IN REPOSE TO A QUESTION, RUGGIERO SAID HE WAS NOT AWARE OF WALI'S WHEREABOUTS, BUT PROMISED TO MAKE A DISCREET INQUIRY AND TO LET US KNOW THE RESULTS. RUGGIERO TELLS US THAT FORMER AFGHAN AMBASSADOR TO EGYPT GHAZI HAS REQUESTED AND OBTAINED POLITICAL ASYLUM IN FRANCE.HOLMES

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Concepts:** SITREP, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS, POLITICAL SITUATION  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Subject:** AFGHAN DEVELOPMENTS ACCORDING TO MFA'S OFFICE DIRECTOR FOR ASIAN AFFAIRS (RUGGIERO), TWO SENIOR AFGHAN OFFICIALS HAVE RECEN  
**TAGS:** PEPR, PINT, AF, IT, US  
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**Review Markings:**  
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